

the eight skins in the Museum, all from the same locality, I consider it is a distinct subspecies as above.

Dr. PERCY R. LOWE sent the following description of a new Petrel from the Galapagos Islands, as follows :—

+ *Oceanites gracilis galapagoensis*, subsp. nov.

Differs from *O. g. gracilis* in its larger measurements, in its uniformly lighter coloration, and in the more diffuse and less conspicuous arrangement of the white on the abdomen.

*Type* in Brit. Mus. ♂ ad. Charles Island, Galapagos Group, 4. xi. 1897. Webster-Harris Exped. Reg. Brit. Mus. 99. 9. 1. 523.

The wings of two adult females measured 145 and 142 mm., those of two males 140 and 136 mm. The wings of two adult female *O. gracilis gracilis*, from Chile and Peru respectively, measured 128 mm. and 130 mm.; of two males from Peru 127 mm.

It is to be noted that the lighter coloration of the examples examined from the Galapagos is *not* due to fading through age.

Dr. LOWE also described a new race of Shearwater from the western end of the Mediterranean under the name of :—

+ *Puffinus puffinus mauretanicus*, subsp. nov.

Similar to *P. p. yelkouan*, but with under tail-coverts, feathers of the crissum, flanks, and axillaries entirely and uniformly smoky brown. In the cervical region the smoky greyish-brown coloration extends well forward from the sides towards the mid-line in front, and also from the flanks across the lower abdomen.

*Type* in Brit. Mus. Algiers, 22. ii. 13. Reg. No. 1905. 6. 28. 1249. (Cavendish-Taylor Bequest.)

*Measurements*: bill 38, wing 245, tarsus 48, middle toe with claw 57 mm.

Six examples examined from Algeria, Malaga, and Devonshire.

*Note.* The two birds from Devonshire have been referred to as *P. p. yelkouan* in Godman's 'Monograph of the Petrels,' but obviously belong to this overlooked race from the Western Mediterranean. The breeding-locality of *P. p. mauretanicus* will probably be found to be either the Island of Alboran or the Habbas Islands. It is doubtful if records of *P. p. yelkouan* from the British Isles are correct.

Mr. ROBERT H. READ exhibited two nests of Mistle-Thrush as interesting examples of adaptation to environment. One, made externally of a great mass of hoary tree-lichens, was taken from the upper branches of an old apple-tree in Somerset covered with the same material. The other, taken from the lower fork of a lime-washed apple-tree in Kent, was covered externally with a mass of white wool to correspond with its surroundings.

Mr. P. F. BUNYARD exhibited two clutches of four, and three clutches of three eggs of the Solitary Sandpiper, *Tringa solitarius*, from Alberta, May 28th–June 6th; all from old nests of the American Robin, *Turdus migratorius*: also two typical clutches of the Yellowshank, *Tringa flavipes*, from Alberta, and Saskatchewan, June 1 and 6.

Previous to 1904 the eggs of the Solitary Sandpiper were unknown. They were first described and figured in this country in the 'Ibis' for 1907. Those exhibited represented the two known forms, *i. e.* those with the greenish and brownish ground, both of which were figured in the 'Ibis.' The eggs of the Wood and Solitary Sandpiper very closely resemble one another, as one would naturally expect from two such closely allied species—those of *T. solitarius*, however, are slightly smaller.

Dr. F. M. CHAPMAN, Curator of Ornithology in the American Museum of Natural History, New York, then addressed the Club on the subject of "The Origin of Andean Bird-Life, with special reference to Altitudinal Life-Zones."

Having outlined the chief features of the problem presented by the effect of the elevation of the Andes on the